

**WILLIAMSBURG
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD MINUTES
Tuesday, November 9, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

The regular semimonthly Architectural Review Board meeting was held on Tuesday, November 9, 2004, at 6:30 p.m. in the third Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Building.

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order. Present in addition to Mr. Williams were Board members Mr. Hertzler, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Spence and Mr. Watson. Board members Mr. Walker and Mr. Klee were absent. Also present was Planning Director Nestor and Zoning Officer Beck.

CONSENT AGENDA

ARB #04-112 G-Square Inc./102 Delaware Avenue – Fence – Approved.

Mr. Williams motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Recorded vote on the motion:

Aye: Mr. Hertzler, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Williams, Mr. Spence and Mr. Watson.

Nay: None.

Absent: Mr. Walker and Mr. Klee.

Abstain: None.

SIGNS

ARB

SIGN#04-047 Great Wolf Lodge/1675 Richmond Road – Monument & Building Mounted Signs

Curtis Brown, General Manager of the Great Wolf Lodge, presented the sign proposal. Mr. Williams stated the **Design Review Guidelines** require a dark background and limits the number of colors to three except for logos. He noted the white background on the monument sign would have to be opaque, non-illuminated or externally illuminated. Mr. Brown stated since the office was temporary he would prefer to remove the interior lighting from the sign than investing more money into the sign. The Board asked if the light from the above sign would illuminate the bottom sign if the interior lighting was removed for Great Wolf Lodge. Mr. Brown stated the upper lighting would not illuminate the bottom sign since they are separated by a barrier.

Mr. Williams motioned to approve the monument sign for ARB Sign #04-047 conditioned upon the portion of the monument sign advertising Great Wolf Lodge being non-illuminated.

Recorded vote on the motion:

Aye: Mr. Hertzler, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Williams, Mr. Spence and Mr. Watson.
Nay: None.
Absent: Mr. Walker and Mr. Klee.
Abstain: None.

A discussion followed on the building mounted sign. Mr. Brown stated he wanted to externally illuminate the sign. The Board stated the light fixture and location must be similar to the Rosie Rumps building mounted sign.

Mr. Williams motioned to approve the building mounted sign for ARB Sign #04-047 conditioned upon it being illuminated with a down light fixture similar to the fixture illuminating the Rosie Rumps building mounted sign.

Recorded vote on the motion:

Aye: Mr. Hertzler, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Williams, Mr. Spence and Mr. Watson.
Nay: None.
Absent: Mr. Walker and Mr. Klee.
Abstain: None.

ARB

SIGN#04-048 Lenny's Gourmet/445 Prince George Street – Awnings

Sharon Scruggs and Lenny Sean presented their proposal for two dark green retractable awnings with gold lettering to shelter tables and quests for the outdoor seating area. Mr. Williams stated in the past, the Board has voted in favor of consistency with businesses in the same building and for awnings to have side panels, so he would be in favor of the awnings being at the same height and having side panels. Mr. Spence concurred with Mr. Williams. Mr. Durbin stated that they should be able to have the awnings at a different height and without side panels because Aromas has the same type of awning and the block has awnings at different heights. He also stated the **Design Review Guidelines** stated that awnings *should* have side panels. Mr. Nester was asked about the interpretation of the word *should*. Mr. Nester stated that since the last revision of the **Design Review Guidelines** it has been the practice of the ARB to approve awnings with side panels. He noted the reason is to keep the framing and any lighting that may be inside the awning from being exposed. Mrs. Scruggs argued that if the awnings contained side panels and were installed at the same height as the other awnings on the building that the existing Fife and Drum Inn sign would not be visible for customers. Mr. Williams disagreed with her statement noting that the people would be walking along the outside of the awning and would be able to see the Fife and Drum Inn sign. Mr. Williams asked Mr. Sean if he would like him to make a motion to approve the awnings with the condition that side panels are installed and the awnings are at the same height. Mr. Sean stated he really wanted the retractable awnings, but he didn't know if they made them with side panels. Mrs. Scruggs asked about the possibility of installing dome awnings instead of triangular awnings. The Board was not in favor of the suggestion since the majority of the awnings on the

building were triangular. She noted that she would be back with an application to raise her sign at the Fife and Drum Inn.

Mr. Williams motioned to deny ARB Sign #04-048 as presented.

Recorded vote on the motion:

Aye: Mr. Hertzler, Mr. Williams, Mr. Spence and Mr. Watson.
Nay: Mr. Durbin.
Absent: Mr. Walker and Mr. Klee.
Abstain: None.

Mr. Williams motioned to approve ARB Sign #04-048 conditioned upon the awning on the left being installed at the same height as the awning on the right with both awnings having side panels.

Recorded vote on the motion:

Aye: Mr. Hertzler, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Williams, Mr. Spence and Mr. Watson.
Nay: None.
Absent: Mr. Walker and Mr. Klee.
Abstain: None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Minutes October 26, 2004

The minutes were approved as presented.

Hardiplank Siding Discussion

Mr. Williams gave a brief overview on Board meetings over the past two months on synthetic siding noting the following:

- Joel Sheppard, Dave Harvey and Kerry Shackelford spoke concerning synthetic siding and wood siding two meetings ago.
- Mr. Sheppard and Mr. Harvey spoke in favor of synthetic siding. Mr. Sheppard who is the principal owner of Custom Building Supply and a builder reported that approximately 60% of his siding and trim material inventory is synthetic in response to the current market.
- Mr. Shackelford spoke in favor of wood siding noting that if installed properly it would last a long time; good quality wood siding is available at a reasonable price and that he was willing to show a person how to install and paint wood siding properly.
- Mr. Sheppard was interested in Mr. Shackelford's product because he still has some customers that prefer wood siding.
- The Board was in agreement at the last meeting that the current guidelines as pertaining to wood siding gave enough flexibility.

- The Board agreed to develop a letter to City Council at a work session to see if they would be willing to give people in an Architectural Preservation District an incentives for restoring their house with wood siding using a form similar to one that is used in Newport News.

Mr. Hertzler noted the following:

- The incentive program is a good idea.
- If the incentive program is approved by City Council and does not work then the Board should revisit the use of synthetic siding and change the **Design Reviews Guidelines** to allow it in some Architectural Preservation Districts like Mr. Hart's which contains mainly synthetic siding.

Mr. Watson noted he felt Hardiplank siding should be allowed in neighborhoods like Mr. Hart's which contain dwellings that have mainly synthetic siding, but for the Robert Casey application it should not be allowed because of the proximity to Pollard Park and Chandler Court which are located on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mr. Victor Smith, 140 Chandler Court expressed a concern with using synthetic siding everywhere in the City and noted that you can purchase good wood siding in the area. He stated that he lived in Chandler Court and he and his neighbors worked very hard to have Chandler Court and Pollard Park put on the state and federal listing of historic places. He noted his house has wood siding and it has been durable.

Mr. Harry Hart stated that he appreciated the Board looking into the matter, but he did not agree with their decision.

Mr. Williams motioned that the provisions in the current **Design Review Guidelines** as pertaining to the replacement of wood siding in an Architectural Preservation District are in accordance with the Board's mission of historic preservation.

Recorded vote on the motion:

Aye: Mr. Hertzler, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Williams, Mr. Spence and Mr. Watson.

Nay: None.

Absent: Mr. Walker and Mr. Klee.

Abstain: None.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Jason Beck
Zoning Officer